

Remarks

This amendment is presented after the date of filing an Appeal Brief pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(b). Claim 21 is cancelled. In addition, Claim 1 is amended to present Claim 11 in independent form, and Claim 11 is accordingly cancelled. Applicants submits that the amendments comply with 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(b) because the amendment merely cancels a claim (Claim 21) without affecting the scope of any other pending claims in this proceeding and rewrites a dependent claims (Claim 11) into independent format. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request entry of this amendment.

A Reply Brief responsive to the Examiner's Answer mailed March 22, 2007, is being filed concurrently herewith.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0332.

Respectfully submitted,

/ss/ Melissa B. Pendleton

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